

USE OF NEURAMINIDASE INHIBITORS TO PREVENT FLU ASSOCIATED
BACTERIAL INFECTIONS

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

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The invention provides a novel use for neuraminidase inhibitors in chemoprophylactic and treatment methods for the prevention, attenuation and treatment of bacterial infections that may occur in association with, or as a sequelae of, viral influenza. The prophylactic methods of the invention are particularly suitable for the 10 prevention of secondary bacterial infections, such as, but not limited to infections of the lower respiratory tract (e.g., pneumonia), middle ear infections (e.g., otitis media) and bacterial sinusitis. The treatment methods are suitable for use in protocols designed to attenuate or treat bacterial infections that occur concurrent with, or as a sequelae of the flu.